

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226548

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ALGIERS AMMAN JERUSALEM
JIDDA KUWAIT MOSCOW RABAT TEL AVIV TR POLI TUNIS USUN
BAGHDAD FROM BEIRUT NOV 14

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 13109

DEPT PASS CAIRO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS XF

SUBJ: ARAB SUPPORT FOR PLO PARTICIPATION IN ME PEACE TALKS

REF: BEIRUT 13079

1. DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT LEBANESE FONOFFICE
(ISMAIL) GAVE EMBOFF RUNDOWN ON THINKING ARAB GOVTS
ON QUESTION PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT PEACE
TALKS. (ISMAIL RS FORMER AMB TO SAUDI ARABIA AND
PARTICIPATED IN GOL CONVERSATIONS OVER PAST WEEK
WITH EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS IN CAIRO AND DAMASCUS, AND
IN MEETINGS WITH REPS OTHER ARAB GOVTS HERE.)

2. ISMAIL CONFIRMED OUR BELIEF THAT ALL ARAB GOVTS
WITH EXCEPTION LIBYA, IRAQ AND JORDAN WISH SEE
PALESTINIANS REPRESENTED AT PEACE TALKS BY PLO.

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IRAQ AND LIBYA SUPPORT PLO AS REPRESENTATIVE OF

PALESTINIANS BUT ARE OPPOSED TO ITS PARTICIPATION
IN PEACE TALKS SINCE THIS IMPLIES CONTINUED EXISTENCE
OF ISRAELI STATE, POSITION WHICH THEY ARE CURRENTLY
OPPOSING. JORDAN OBJECTS BECAUSE OF LONG-STANDING
POSITION THAT GOJ REPRESENTS PALESTINIANS AND PLO THEREFORE
NOT REPRESENTATIVE.

3. ISMAIL SAID THAT AFTER PLO TRIP TO MOSCOW
(ASSUMING IT COMES OFF), NEXT STEP FOR PLO WILL BE
TAKEN AT ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS AND SUMMIT MEETINGS
IN ALGIERS ON NOV 24 AND 26, RESPECTIVELY. ARAB GOVTS
WILL RALLY AS MUCH SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE FOR FORMAL
DECISION THAT PLO SHOULD ATTEND PEACE TALKS AS
REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, STATUS WHICH
ARAB LEAGUE ALREADY ON RECORD AS HAVING CONFERRED
ON PLO. ASKED ABOUT PFLP, ALF AND OTHER MINORITY
FEDAYEEN GROUPS WHICH HAVE NOT YET ACCEPTED IDEA OF
PARTICIPATION, ISMAIL SAID THEY UNDER INFLUENCE OF
IRAQ AND LIBYA WHO TRYING CREATE RADICAL SEPARATIST
GROUP AMONG PALESTINIANS THAT WOULD BE AMENABLE TO
THEIR INFLUENCE. HOWEVER, THEIR NUMBERS SO SMALL
THAT EVEN IF THEY REFUSE GO ALONG WITH IDEA OF
PARTICIPATION, THEY WILL HAVE VERY LIMITED INFLUENCE.

4. ISMAIL CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT 'ARAFAT WOULD HEAD
PLO DEL AT ALGIERS SUMMIT MEETING.
BUFFUM
UNQUOTE RUSH

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